GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:18
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2008
NEWS ON FM CHANNELS
Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received any proposal from Telecom Regulatory Authority of India(TRAI) for allowing the broadcast of news and current affairs on FM channels;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI)

(a) to (c) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (c) of LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.18 TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.02.08.

(a) to (c) : Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has submitted their recommendations on issues relating to Phase III of expansion of FM Radio Broadcasting to the Government on 22.02.2008. The Authority while giving recommendations on various issues also recommended that FM Radio Broadcasters may be permitted to broadcast news taking content from All India Radio, Doordarshan, authorized T.V. News channels, United News of India, Press Trust of India and any other authorized news agency without any substantive change in the content. The recommendations of TRAI are being examined by the Government.